

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 1. (Currently Amended) An appliance for protection against impact and strain injury
2 including a plurality of mutually overlapping interconnected plates of an impact-resistant material
3 attached to or adapted to be attached to an article to be worn about a part of the body such as to
4 permit limited relative movement between the plates; characterised in that at least some of the
5 plates are aligned and movable along a common backing member; and in that means are provided
6 for removably mounting the appliance on an article to be worn. --

1 2. (Original) An appliance according to Claim 1, wherein the backing member is a
2 ligament extending centrally along the appliance.

1 3. (Original) An appliance according to Claim 1, wherein the backing member is
2 comprised by two or more ligaments extending along the appliance in spaced disposition.

1 4. (Cancelled)

1 5. (Currently Amended) An appliance according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1,
2 wherein at least two of the interconnected plates are mounted in fixed relative disposition along
3 the backing member.

1 6. (Cancelled)

1 7. (Currently Amended) An appliance according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1,
2 wherein the backing member forms, or includes, a fastener thus to be removably attachable to a
3 part of the garment.

1 8. (Original) An appliance according to Claim 7, wherein the fastener is a hook and loop
2 fastener.

1 9. (Currently Amended) An appliance according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1,
2 contained within a sleeve removably or permanently attached to a garment.

1 10. (Original) An appliance according to Claim 5, wherein said at least two of the
2 interconnected plates are attached by stitching to the backing member.

1 11. (Currently Amended) An appliance according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1,
2 wherein at least some of the plates have loops and are threadedly mounted on the backing
3 member.

1 12. (Original) An appliance according to Claim 8, wherein a strip of the hook and loop
2 fastener extends along and is attached to the backing member.

1 13. (Original) An appliance according to Claim 12, wherein the strip of hook and loop
2 fastener has a self-adhesive backing for attachment to the backing member.

1 14. (Original) An appliance according to Claim 9, wherein the sleeve is open-ended to
2 receive the appliance, the open end or ends being closable by a strip of hook and loop fastener.

1 15. (Currently Amended) An appliance according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1,
2 wherein several strips of such appliance are removably attached to the back of a glove.

1 16. (Currently Amended) An appliance according to [any one of Claims 1 to 14] Claim 1,
2 wherein several strips of such appliance are attached to a sock thus selectively to provide a shin

3 guard, ankle guard or a guard at the rear to protect the Achilles tendon region.

1 17. (Currently Amended) An appliance according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1,
2 wherein the or at least some of the interconnected plates are formed such as to consist individually
3 of an outer shell and an inner core having, relative to the outer shell, more highly impact-resistant
4 properties.

1 18. (Original) An appliance according to Claim 1, wherein the backing member is formed
2 at least one strip of hook and loop fastener with the interconnected plates threadedly engaged
3 thereon in mutually overlapping relationship.

1 19. (Original) An appliance according to Claim 1, wherein the backing member extends
2 centrally along the row of interconnected plates, and further fastening means are provided
3 removably to fasten outer side regions of at least some of said plates to a garment thus to prevent
4 said side regions from lifting in use.